Predicament of Bhopal Gas Victims

2279. SMT. KAMLA SINHA:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Governments attention has been drawn to the report appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 23rd June, 1994 highlighting the predicament of the Bhopal gas victims; and

(b) if so, what is the factual position in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Government have seen the report.

(b) As on 14-7-94, 77,386 claims have been disposed of against 6,13,000 claims filed for injury and death cases. The amount of compensation awarded is Rs 237.79 crores.

According to the Welfare Commissioner, the non-availability of judges in the required number is the main impediment in disposal of the cases of the victims.

However, the following Action measures were taken by the Government of India to dispose of the remaining claims expeditiously:—

(i) The Welfare Commissioner has been permitted to recruit advocates of 7 years standing who would perform the functions of Deputy Commissioners.

(ii) A High Level Coordination Committee headed by Justice N. M. Kasliwal, a retired Judge of the Supreme Court has been set up with the objective to suggest ways and means for expeditious disposal of the cases.

(iii) Close monitoring of the disposal of cases and regular inter-action with the Welfare Commissioner to remove any impediments that he may be facing in the disposal of cases.

Utilization of Plan Out-Lay

2280. SHRI O. P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) under Ministry have not utilised the plan outlay during the initial years of 8th Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the plan out-lay sanctioned in respect of each of the PSUs in each of the years so far under the Eighth Plan and how much plan outlay has been utilised so far;

(d) the steps taken to make proper utilisation of the plan out-lay;

(e) the effect of the non-utilisation of the plan out-lay on the people by the PSUs; and

(f) the steps taken to prepare realistic plan out-lays and for meticulous implementation thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) the required information is contained in the statement annexed. (See below)

(d) to (f) the utilisation of the plan outlay is reviewed and monitored regularly by the Ministry and the Planning Commission. These reviews take into account the proper utilisation of the funds progress of implementation of the various schems and corrective measures required if any.